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(54) Title: BEVERAGE CONTAINER CLOSURE AND SEALANT LAYER MATERIAL		
(57) Abstract A melt-processible composition for molding closures and sealant layers for beverage containers has improved gas barrier properties. The composition comprises: a) a thermoplastic base polymeric material and b) a quantity of layered magnesium aluminum silicate clay having platelets with a diameter of approximately 1 micron. The magnesium aluminum silicate clay is preferably nanocomposite, montmorillonite clay. The preferred base material for beverage container closures is polypropylene, polyethylene and/or a propylene/ethylene copolymer. The preferred base material for beverage container sealant layers is an ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, polyethylene, styrene ethylene butadiene styrene polymer, styrene butadiene styrene polymer, ethylene propylene diene monomer, and metallocene polymers.		